



REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN
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HOUSE SPEAKER
PRO TEM

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2004

REPORT TO THE 44TH DISTRICT

Dear neighbors,

Public safety. Public schools. Public service.

I believe that all of us – Republicans and Democrats, Libertarians and Greens – support those three cornerstones. Everyone benefits from:

- Making our neighborhoods and roads safer;
- Giving our kids a better education; and
- Encouraging people to volunteer, serve their community and participate in their democracy.

This newsletter is my opportunity to tell you what happened in the Legislature and what I'm working on for the future.

It's also an opportunity to hear directly from you. There's a short survey at the end, and I look forward to reading your thoughts, ideas and comments.

It's an honor and a privilege to serve as your representative. Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

REP. JOHN LOVICK
House Speaker Pro Tem
44th District

WHAT'S INSIDE:

PUBLIC SAFETY

No weapons in airports or the state capitol
Ingredients to cook meth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Drop-outs
A world-class education for all

PUBLIC SERVICE

Memorial for firefighter and police officers
Tax break for surviving family

WHAT DO YOU THINK? - Survey

JOHN LOVICK • SERVING THE 44TH DISTRICT

PUBLIC SAFETY

I'm happy to tell you that a package of reforms that I introduced to improve public safety passed.

No weapons in airports or the state capitol — It's still legal to carry guns or knives into some airports and into our state capitol. We need to fix the law to prevent violence or terrorism. Last year, a man who'd made threats against Gov. Locke brought a gun to the capitol — and we're lucky that state troopers caught him.

Ingredients to cook meth — Meth makers buy box after box of cough medicines to get the ephedrine inside. House Bill 2844 stops people from buying those medicines by the truckload. And if drug dealers can't cook meth, they can't sell it. The Senate version of this bill passed.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DROP-OUTS

We need to start by passing reforms that plug the holes in our schools and colleges.

Out of ten kids in kindergarten, only two will graduate from college. Every step of the way, we lose kids.

One of three kids drops out of high school. You can't get a decent job without a college degree, much less a high school degree.

Every kid who drops out of high school means more unemployment, poverty and crime in our state.

Half of all college freshmen don't graduate, often because they can't afford to continue their studies.

We need to focus on getting every child — rich or poor, in the city or the suburbs — through high school and college.

A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION FOR ALL

Every child needs a world-class education. That means reforming the standard statewide tests, called the WASL, and giving schools the support they need to help students meet the tough new standards.

We also need to make sure our students and workers get the best jobs, not people from California or New York.

Right now, Microsoft and other high-tech companies are hiring thousands of new workers at great salaries. But they're hiring mostly outside Washington state because our universities don't produce enough graduates with the right high-tech skills for those high-paying jobs.

I support reforms to boost the number of graduates in high-paying fields like biotech, engineering and computers.



PUBLIC SERVICE

I believe the decisions we make today aren't really about us — they're about giving our children and grandchildren a better life.

As a father, state trooper and a volunteer in our local schools, I've seen how a series of bad decisions can snowball into a tragedy — and how spending a little time with a young child or high school student can change the path of their life.

I'd like to tell you about reform bills that deal with public safety and public service.

There's nobody I respect more than the people who



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dedicate their lives to protecting and serving others – firefighters, police officers, teachers, nurses – and I believe it's important for our kids to grow up with the idea that there are people worthy of respect other than rock stars, professional athletes and movie stars.

I believe a big part of protecting public safety and making our communities work is making sure that each generation understands that public service is a noble thing.

So I introduced legislation to honor those who've given their lives protecting others.

Memorial for firefighter and police officers — A new memorial for fallen firefighters and police officers is funded through memorial license plates, just like supporters of UW or WSU can buy special plates supporting their university.

Tax break for surviving family — This reform gives the surviving family of fallen firefighters or police officers a break when they need it most by exempting them from the state property tax. The bill didn't pass this session, but I'll fight hard for it again next year.

It's a tiny cost to the state budget but the message it sends isn't small. By doing this, we're saying, "You stood by us when it mattered most, and now we're standing by your family when they need help."



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

PUBLIC SAFETY

Do you feel safe in your neighborhood?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Has anyone in your family been a victim of crime?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Has anyone in your family been in a car accident?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What reforms do you support to prevent crime and car accidents?

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Grade your local schools (A, B, C, D or F) _____

What reforms do you support to improve our schools?

Do you worry about your children or grandchildren getting into a good college?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What reforms do you support for improving our colleges and universities?

PUBLIC SERVICE

What could we do to get more people involved in your community – to volunteer, participate and vote?

How could we get people more involved in our schools?



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stamp
here



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KEEPING IN TOUCH

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